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MERCK & CO., INC.

By

Date

6/13/00

5/6
7/8/00
Pfleiderer
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A.G. Daifotis et al.

Serial No.: 09/445,837

Case No.: 20002YP

Art Unit: 1614

Filed: December 13, 1999

For: METHOD FOR INHIBITING BONE RESORPTION

Examiner:
T. Criares

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Entry of the following Second Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.
This amendment supplements the Preliminary Amendment of December 13, 1999.

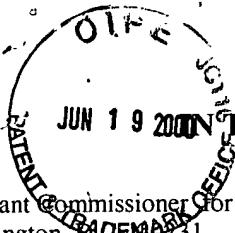
REC'D
JUN 03 2000
USPTO-1234567890

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 53, as follows.

B1
Claim 53 (Amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising about 140 mg, on an alendronic acid active basis, of a bisphosphonate selected from the group consisting of alendronate, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof or esters thereof, and mixtures thereof.

Please add the following new Claims:



130

1600

GA 1614

PATENT
CASE NO. 20002YP

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231In re application of: A. G. DAIFOTIS ET AL.
Serial No. 09/445,837
Filed December 13, 1999
Group Art Unit 1614
Examiner T. Criares
For: METHOD FOR INHIBITING BONE RESORPTION

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- No additional fee is required.
 The fee has been calculated as shown below.

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JUL 03 2000
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

(1)	(2) Claims remaining after amendment	(3)	(4) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total Claims	* <u>4</u>	-	** <u>20</u> =	<u>0</u> X	\$18	= <u>0.00</u>
Independent Claims	* <u>1</u>	-	*** <u>3</u> =	<u>0</u> X	\$78	= <u>0.00</u>
Multiple Dependent Claims		-		<u>0</u> X	\$260 ****	= <u>0.00</u>
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						0.00

* If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" in this space is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" in this space is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

**** Add this fee only if application is amended to include multiple dependent claims (regardless of number) and no multiple dependent claims were originally filed.

Charge \$ 0.00 to Deposit Account No. 13-2755. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2755. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully,

By: ANTHONY D. SABATELLI

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 34,714MERCK & CO., INC.
Patent Dept., RY60-30
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, N.J. 07065-0907

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Date: June 13, 2000

IN DUPLICATE